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OLDEST BEE PAPER IN AMERICA

GEORGE W. YORK,
Editor.

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—TO BEE-CULTURE.

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The Man who knows it all
And keeps it, we adore;
But he who knows it all
And tells it, is a bore.

Kerosene Oil as a remedy for bee-stings is suggested in one of our exchanges. It says that "it will not swell any if applied immediately."

The Fat Stock Show, which for years has been held in November in Chicago, has been indefinitely postponed, on account of the inability of the Managers to have the proposed new building completed in time.

Golden-Rod has been selected as the flower of the new Chicago University, which opens this fall with President Wm. R. Harper at its head. By the way, it seems that the *golden-rod* is much more popular in educational circles than is the *birchen-rod*. Some of us, doubtless, have reason to remember our acquaintance with the latter in our younger days.

The Illinois State Convention which is to meet at the Commercial Hotel here in Chicago on Oct. 18th and 19th, promises to be a good one. Mr. Jas. A. Stone, its enthusiastic Secretary, makes the following explanation about the programme:

FRIEND YORK:—On account of the unavoidable delays in the mails and otherwise, we are unable to have published a programme in full of our Chicago meeting of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association on Oct. 18th and 19th. Many of the most prominent bee-keepers of our land will be there. Excursion rates on all the railroads will be secured. Let every one attending load himself or herself with the questions they desire answered and discussed, and it is very certain that none will go away saying the programme was not a good one.

We expect Dr. Miller with his songs.

It is very important that a large representation of bee-keepers be there, as there will be a formal action taken, requesting the Illinois State Board of Agriculture to appropriate such an amount as will be needed for our State to make a creditable apiarian exhibit at the World's Fair. Yours truly,

JAS. A. STONE, Sec.

Colorado, it is said, is becoming the banner honey-district of the West. The shipments of honey from Denver this fall will aggregate fully 20 car-coads. And the industry is still in its infancy. Good for the "Centennial State."

Great Premium on page 485!

The First of the monthly bee-papers we received for October was the *American Bee-Keeper*. It is a specially bright number, and for so young a paper it gives unusual promise of great usefulness, and helpful influence to the pursuit of bee-keeping. Its publishers are wide-awake, and are quite able to sustain the standard which their periodical has attained. Regarding the season of 1892, it says this editorially:

The season of 1892 goes on record as one of the poorest for the honey-producer, the queen-breeder and the manufacturer of apiarian supplies that has been known for many years. The long, wet and cold spring resulting in the dwindling and destruction of many colonies, and retarding the brood-rearing, was followed by a generally good summer season, but so short that the bees in their weakened condition could not store any surplus to speak of, most of the honey gathered going to fill the brood-chambers. In some localities considerable surplus was stored, and bees did fairly well, but as a rule bee-keeping has been carried on at a loss this season.

The price paid for nice new comb honey is higher than last season, and the demand is in excess of the supply. In our judgment, the proper time to dispose of honey is during this and next month. Prices are apt to be stronger than later on.

Apicultural Experiments is a subject which Prof. Cook writes about very vigorously on page 498. He knows exactly what he is talking about, and bee-keepers, as well as others who read that article, will also have a better comprehension of the great importance and urgent necessity of apicultural experimentation.

Of course this work should be undertaken by the Government, and not be left to generally incompetent and often financially unable individual efforts. The various State apicultural experiment stations and colleges are the places where such work should be performed. In these institutions are to be found ample facilities and cultivated and devoted intelligence to carry on different

lines of experimentation that can but result in great blessing to the bee-keeper, and in many instances would be of incalculable benefit to the country at large.

The matter of expense is not deserving of consideration, when compared with the importance of the work proposed, and its inevitable beneficent influence upon our land and nation.

We also would urge upon the various more prominent bee-conventions, to be held in the near future, the wisdom of Prof. Cook's suggestion, that they pass "vigorous resolutions," and appoint "wide-awake committees" to bring this matter of the great need of apicultural experiments before the proper authorities, both State and National, and "*push for what is just and right.*" Only by so doing is there at all any promise of either immediate or later attainment of the desired righteous object.

Any suggestions that would likely aid those who may be called upon to work for the just recognition of the rights of bee-keepers in legislatures or elsewhere, will doubtless be appreciated. Let us have your best ideas on this, as well as other subjects which touch the apiarian heart and life.

The Best Display of honey at the Arkansas valley Fair in Rocky Ford, Colo., lately was made by J. F. Hogan, who has 126 colonies in healthy condition. Mr. Hogan has a colony of pure Italian bees working in a glass globe, building comb and filling the cells with stores. This curiosity will be sent to the Columbian Exhibition next year.

Honey-Dew is not feared in Colorado. The *Field and Farm*, of Denver, says that they "may have the foul brood, but there is every reason to believe that honey-dew will never come to us, on account of the dry climate and brilliant sunshine."

Don't Fail to read all of page 485.

Mr. Geo. E. Hilton, of Fremont, Mich., is thus noticed in the *Fremont Indicator* for Sept. 29th, besides giving his portrait and a short biographical sketch:

It is quite gratifying to know that our candidate for Representative in the State Legislature was the unanimous choice of the many delegates at the convention on Sept. 21st. Such hearty unanimity is good for the head of the ticket—a high compliment for our honored townsman, and who is pretty certain to receive as large a vote as was ever cast for a candidate for representative in this (Newaygo) county.

Above all things, this country needs good officials to enforce its laws, and look after the interests of its citizens. When it comes to politics, the *BEE JOURNAL* isn't "in it"—to use a slang but emphatic expression; however, it would like to see always the very best men at the head of the important affairs of this country. To that extent the *BEE JOURNAL* is interested.

The Value of Membership

in the National Bee-Keepers' Union is again made apparent by the following letter from one of its members who was threatened with trouble, by jealous neighbors, for keeping bees in National City, Calif. The letter was written to the General Manager of the Union, and shows how the *moral influence* of being a member of the "Union" prevented trouble, and at the same time gave "officials" an opportunity of becoming posted concerning the rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States to bee-keepers, while in the prosecution of their legitimate pursuit. Here is the letter:

Your letter and printed matter came to hand in due time. One copy of "the Arkansas Supreme Court Decision" is hanging in the Post-office; the City Council has one, and the city attorney (a friend of mine) was glad to become posted upon this matter, as was likewise the President of the Chamber of Commerce of San Diego county; and I have not heard a word of it since.

It was a case of "threats" so far, but I consider it a grand thing to be able to educate the people on this question, and ward off trouble, expense, and a lot of hard feelings.

I shall talk "Union" to all the bee-men I meet, and hope to be able to convince some about the actual value and benefit of the National Bee-Keepers' Union, and the necessity of getting their membership. I shall attend the County Fair this week, and shall post up the Supreme Court Decision, the 7th Annual Report, and the Constitution, in a conspicuous place.

ARTHUR HANSEN.

National City, Calif., Sept. 18, 1892.

In preventing trouble, the Union is just as successful as it is when it conducts a case in Court. All bee-keepers should be proud of it, and give it their most hearty support.

The Clemons-Mason Commission Co., of Kansas City, Mo., have informed us that their place of business was destroyed by fire on Sept. 24th.

They had occupied their old stand since 1875, and this is their first experience in the fire business, and they, as well as we, hope it will be their last.

If any of our readers have in any way been inconvenienced by delays in answering their correspondence with this firm, receiving returns for shipments to them, or filling orders, this will explain the reason. They are now located at 521 Walnut street.

Good Apiarian Displays at the Lincoln, Nebr., Fair that was held recently, are reported by the *Breeder and Fancier* for September. It says that "the display of bee-supplies at the Lincoln Fair was very creditable, that of E. Kretchmer, of Red Oak, Iowa, being particularly fine. Among the exhibitors were Stilson & Sons, of York, Nebr., Chas. White, of Farmers' Valley, Nebr., A. C. Davidson, of Omaha, and Levering Bros., of Wiota, Iowa, each of whom made a good display."

The Fall Crop of Honey has been quite good in many localities. This will be a great help where otherwise it would have been necessary to feed the bees for winter. Bro. Root, in *Gleanings* for Oct. 1st, writes thus of the crop of honey this year:

There seems to be a smaller crop of honey this year than usual—at least, there is not very much offered. We notice from the reports, that consignments are small. Does this mean that the honey crop this season was actually smaller this year, even, than last? By the way, the fall honey crop, judging by the letters we are receiving every day, is unusually large. At our basswood apiary we actually had to give the bees more room because they had crammed almost every available cell with honey and brood. Golden-rod has been out in great profusion, and this is, no doubt, the source whence the honey comes.

Another short item, concerning the present prices of honey, is as follows:

It is getting time now for prices on honey to be stiffened up a little. Better figures are usually secured from now on until the holidays than before or later. Watch your chances.

Mr. H. W. Garrett, of Coeyman's Hollow, N. Y., we regret very much to learn, died a few days ago. We have received the following account from a "Friend," dated Oct. 2, 1892:

Mr. H. W. Garrett—one of our best known bee-keepers in Albany county, New York—has joined the great majority. His illness was of several months standing—*La Grippe*, followed by Bright's disease.

He was the owner of a small but well-kept and judiciously-handled apiary. He has been an enthusiastic bee-keeper of wide experience, as he had made apiculture an especial care and study for the past 25 years. He was for years a subscriber to, and an ardent admirer of, the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL*, from which he gleaned many benefits.

FRIEND.

The *Globe Bee-Veil*, which we offer on page 508 of this number of the *BEE JOURNAL*, is, just the thing. You can get it for sending us only three new subscribers, at \$1.00 each.

Mineral Wool for Packing bees in winter is inquired about by Mr. D. Lindbeck, of Bishop Hill, Ills., in the following, dated Oct. 3, 1892:

I intend to keep some bees, and I want the best strains combined with beauty. I have had two years' experience, and I find the yellowest bees are the best workers. Out of 16 colonies, spring count, my yellowest bees gave me 108 pounds of surplus, the next best 98 pounds, and my black colony nothing. One brown colony produced 28 pounds, one hybrid 12 pounds, and one colony of Alley's golden Carniolans 54 pounds. My best two queens I bought from the South, and I want to have comfortable hives for their colonies. I think if they are worth keeping, they deserve to be kept in good condition.

I would like to know, through the *BEE JOURNAL*, whether any bee-keeper has had experience in packing double-walled hives with "mineral wool," charcoal and ground cork, and what is the very best, regardless of cost. D. LINDBECK.

Will those who have had experience in packing with the materials mentioned by Mr. Lindbeck, please send us their reports for publication?

White Clover Comb Honey is bringing a good price now-a-days. One of our Western commission firms, who quote in the *BEE JOURNAL*, say this in a private letter, dated Sept. 30th, 1892:

We think at present that 18 cents is very high for white clover honey, and when it gets that high it stops the demand. People have been in the habit of buying fancy white clover honey at about 15 cents, and they dislike very much to order large quantities at the high price of 18 cents. By asking 18 or 20 cents for Wisconsin and Illinois honey, it leaves a good market for California honey, to be sold in preference to Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota shipments.

Circulars for 1892 have been received at this office from the following:

Edwin E. Smith, Watertown, Conn.—12 pages—Apian Supplies.

H. L. Jones, Redbank Plains, near Goodna, Queensland, Australia—36 pages—Bees, Hives and Honey.



Some Flower Messages to All.

ADA M. MELVILLE.

Snowy-fringed daisy-buds, clover and fern !
 See how the hearts of the buttercups burn
 With sunbeams that hide in their bright yellow cups.
 Brimmed o'er with the nectar old Honey-bee
 sips.
 See, how the meadows stretch greenly away
 To kiss the blue heavens where birds are at
 play.
 Sunshine and flowers, meadow and sky—
 Dear child, art forgetting how suffering ones
 lie
 On couches of pain, shut in from the world,
 While you are a-hunting the cool mosses
 curled
 At the foot of the oak-trees, while thickly
 around
 Brown acorn-cups dainty are strewing the
 ground ?
 Snowy-fringed daisy-buds, clover and fern,
 See how the hearts of the buttercups burn,
 Ah, child at your play, and maidens so fair,
 Your lives all untouched by the shadows of
 care,
 Go, carry a breath of the sweet summer day
 To the sick and the dying who moan life away ;
 Go, scatter the buttercup's sunshine abroad—
 E'en a flower may carry a message from God.
 Chicago, Ill. —Epworth Herald.

Cure for Laying Workers.

I think I have tried about all the different cures reported, and I am not sure that I would use any of them that contemplate the continuance of the colony, unless it be to get the bees to rear another queen. Taken early enough, the bees will respect a queen-cell ; in fact, they are trying to rear a queen with their own useless brood ; and if you give them a frame of good brood you may have a queen reared. But they may not rear a very good queen thus, and in any case it will take some time, and it is better to give them a sealed cell as near hatching as possible. I have succeeded by giving them a young queen just hatched. But after the affair gets to be chronic, and the rounded cappings are seen on the worker-cells, more heroic treatment is needed.

On the whole, I am not sure but it is best in all cases to resort to the heroic

treatment of breaking up the colony. Just distribute the contents of the hive, giving one or two frames, bees and all, to each of several other hives : and if you wish anything more continued on the same stand, just put another hive on stand, having in that hive at least two frames of brood with adhering bees, and a sealed queen-cell. After you have experimented long enough at trying to save a colony with laying workers, I feel pretty sure that you will agree with me that the most profitable thing is to break up the whole business, and that it will be cheaper to start a new colony than to continue the old.—DR. C. C. MILLER, in *Gleanings*.

Bee-Keeping and Horticulture.

Bee-keeping has reached such an exact stage now that considerable scientific knowledge of bees and plants must be had before success can be assured. The apiarist must not only know the natural history of the bees, but he must be a patient observer, watching his pets carefully, and ready at a moment's notice to improve upon their condition.

A point that has not yet been fully settled is the relation between the bee-keeper and the fruit-grower. The value of the bees in fertilizing flowers and fruits is not disputed, and it is a question if pomology could advance with such rapid strides as it does if it were not for the bees. Apiculture is the handmaid to horticulture, and the question remains whether the two ought not to be conducted together.

The fruits and flowers must be cultivated for profit, and when they are supplied the richer nectar is prepared for many colonies of bees. The fruit-grower now loses all this nectar or allows his neighbor's bees to carry it away. By having several colonies of bees near his orchard he would not only gather the fruit, but the nectar in their flowers also. Little additional labor would be required for this, as the bees demand very little attention in the fruit season.

Bee Journal Posters, printed in two colors, will be mailed free upon application. They may be used to advantage at Fairs over Bee and Honey Exhibits. We will send sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL to be used in connection with the Posters in securing subscribers. Write a week before the Fair, telling us where to send them. We would like to have a good agent at every Fair.



CONDUCTED BY

Mrs. Jennie Atchley,

FLOYD, HUNT CO., TEX.

Bee-Feeders, How to Feed, Etc.

Mrs. Atchley, as we have had a poor season in north Texas this year, I will be forced to feed my bees to get them in condition for winter. Will you please tell me a good plan for feeding, that is cheap and reliable? E. C.

Friend E. C., I will give you the plan I use when I have to feed, which is cheap, reliable and quick.

Take a pan or vessel that will hold say a half-gallon, or more if you wish; fill it with syrup made from common brown sugar made a little thinner than you would use on the table. Cut a piece of cheap, thin domestic, just to fit the inside of the vessel, leaving a strip to it to reach over the edge and clear down to the frames. Let this strip be two or three inches wide.

Now turn back the quilt at one corner, place the can on the frames, fill it with syrup, and let the strip go right down to where the bees can reach it. Place on an upper story. Pour the food in just about sundown, and always place the cloth smoothly down on the syrup.

To start the bees quick, pour some food on the strip from the bees up to the food in the pan. You can feed 20 to 30 pounds in a short time in this way, and no bees will get drowned, if you use care.

I do not like any feeder that lets the feed run on out, whether the bees want to take it or not. A cool snap might check them from taking the food fast enough, and a fearful mess is the result.

To make the syrup, take two measures of sugar and one of water. Place on the stove, and let it strike a "boil;" set it off to cool, and it is ready. To keep from granulating add a little cream of tartar—a piece as large as a marble to a gallon of syrup. Now give the bees

all they need of this food, and they are safe for winter, as far as food is concerned.

We should all see that the bees have at least 20 pounds of food to the colony as early as Nov. 1st in the South, and only a moderate colony is necessary for the South. It is too expensive in this locality to winter large colonies, as a moderate colony will build up sufficiently strong long before the honey harvest, so more than a half-gallon of bees are fed at a loss to the owner.

Now, don't you Northern bee-folks laugh at this, for I tell you it is true. We need the honey, especially for spring, but half the bees that you need will do for us.

An Experience with Queens, Etc.

I received two queens recently, and put them on frames as directed. I opened the hives in one week, and two days after I looked in, and as I raised the cloth from the frames, the queen was on the box, and flew out before I could get the cloth down. She seemed very lively, and I could not catch her. She was out of sight in a twinkling. That was the last I saw of her. The other one is all right and laying.

We are having a fine flow of honey—the first for nearly four weeks. My bees have averaged about 40 pounds per colony, spring count—all blacks. I bought them last spring, some in very poor condition. I have 28 colonies, and wish to start with 30 next spring; will get some in box-hives and transfer them.

A. BISHER.

Baird, Tex., Sept. 6, 1892.

Friend Bisher, if you will shake a frame of bees at the entrance of the hive when the queen happens to take wing, the roar of the bees going in will attract the queen, and she will return and enter her own hive, and not get lost.

Bee-Keeping in Texas.

I began bee-keeping for myself 12 years ago at Village Mills, Hardin county, Tex. After three years, my wife died, when I sold everything there, and rambled over Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, New Mexico, and Old Mexico, before locating here in Tyler county. I got my start in bees

here by taking "gums" in pay for practice.

Neches river bottom comes within 3 miles of us, and is from 4 to 8 miles wide, and this near the mouth; 300 miles by its current, it often covers 5 miles with water, when men owning hogs and cattle have to bring them out in boats. There are a few small farms or clearings on high spots, and many of the "swampers," as we call the folks living there, keep a few bees, generally in log-gums—cut off from a black-gum tree, whence the name.

and found about 50 pounds of nice honey.

Last March I went into the edge of Hardin county, in the swamp, to see a sick little girl. Her father and brother-in-law had together then some 115 "gums" of all conceivable styles—flat, round and square. They had a swarm in a 10-pound fish-kit, with a 10-pound tea-caddy on top, and they had wintered and had 8 or 10 pounds of honey left. They were black bees. One colony was in a 20-pound talc-box; another in a roll of hickory bark 3 feet long, and the



Arkansas State Building at the World's Columbian Exposition, in 1893.

These people usually get their start by hunting a bee-tree. I was at a cutting the last of July. It was a huge cypress 6 feet in diameter, and took two men a full one-half day's work to fell it. They got probably more than 100 pounds of honey, and some 3 pounds of wax, and gave me the bees. At the village I saw 3 men work about 3 hours to cut a cypress, which fell in a slough 10 feet deep, and we never saw even the hole that the bees went into the tree. These men lost their temper, as it was the 4th of July, and quite warm; but before noon they had another tree down,

size of a stove-pipe. One colony was in a pump-tube 4x6 inches, and 3 feet long. Nearly every gum was fastened to a tree by baling-wire, as security against a freshet. They had one dry-goods box about 4x4x6 feet, into which they threw 11 swarms last year. They had in plenty of cross sticks, and were intending to have it filled with combs. I have not heard from them this summer.

GEORGE MOTT, M. D.

Spurger, Tex., Sept. 12, 1892.

Have You Read page 485 yet?

Proof-Reading Queen-Cells.

There is no use in rearing anything but good queens, no difference what kind of a colony you rear them in, for if you know your business you should "proof-read" every cell before "going to press," as we term it. One or two days before the cells are sealed, you should examine them, and see if the food and larvæ are in proportion, so that if there is plenty of jelly, a nice, well-developed queen, and the cell will build long, etc., pass it as O. K.; otherwise destroy it, as you will most assuredly have some worthless queen under any process if you allow them all to be sealed, or "go to press" without being "proof-read."

What kind of a paper would a publisher have without a proof-reader? Well, some papers would be nothing more than a sheet of typographical errors. It is the same with queen-cells. Why, I have seen just as inferior cells from natural swarming as any other way, but not so common. But sometimes after a swarm has issued the old colony keeps right on building cells, and the last ones will be from larvæ too old, and second and third swarms may take all the best queens with them, and leave the parent colony with a worthless queen.

Southern Bee-Keepers, don't forget about the bee-meeting at the Dallas, Tex., Fair, on Oct. 27th. A grand time is expected.

Doolittle's Queen-Rearing

book should be in the library of every bee-keeper; and in the way we offer it on page 511, there is no reason now why every one may not possess a copy of it. Send us one new subscriber for a year, and we will mail the book to you as a present

The Amateur Bee-Keeper, by J. W. Rouse, is a book of 52 pages, intended, as its name indicates, for beginners. Price, 25 cents. For sale at this office.

At the Dallas Fair, in Texas, on Oct. 27th, a great bee-meeting will be held for Southern bee-keepers. Don't fail to be there.

**What About Reversing Frames?—Does it Injure Brood?**

Query 840.—1. What is the verdict on reversing frames, now that it has had time to be tested? 2. Does it have any bad effect on the capped brood? 3. Does the pupa move or revolve in the cell? I find them in different positions.—Illinois.

I do not practice it.—J. P. H. BROWN.

We have never used reversible frames.—E. FRANCE.

1. I reverse only to get full combs. 2. No. 3. I cannot say.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1. I do not see advantages enough in it to practice reversing to any extent.—EUGENE SECOR.

1. Little is said about it now, and I think opinions are divided. 2. I think not. 3. Yes.—C. C. MILLER.

I have never used reversible frames, but it has always seemed to me to be "agin natur."—MRS. L. HARRISON.

Reversing has always appeared to us to be a child's play, where movable-frame hives are used.—DADANT & SON.

1. I do not practice reversing. 2. I don't think I ever saw any difference in the condition of the brood.—H. D. CUTTING.

Reversing the brood-combs is of no advantage whatever. It is one of those measures that add to the toil of the bee-keeper without profitable return.—G. L. TINKER.

From the little experience I have had along this line, I am satisfied that reversing frames does not pay the practical apiarist, in the long run.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

1. So far as I can learn, they have "rather played out." 2. Not that I have ever seen or heard of. 3. Not by reason of merely reversing, in my opinion.—J. E. POND.

1. I am using a reversible hive, but consider that feature of doubtful utility. 2. No. 3. I have not noticed it; but have seen them in different positions.—C. H. DIBBERN.

I have found no ill effects whatever from a large experience in reversing. I find the advantages are that it almost wholly prevents swarming, and gives us perfect combs that completely fill the frames.—JAMES HEDDON.

1. It has merit. I tried it well, and know this. But I do not believe it will pay for the trouble. The tendency now is more bees and less manipulation, and very wisely so, with our numerous bad years. 2. No. 3. I do not think it moves. If it does, it does no harm, as the brood suffers no harm. Theory says it does not move.—A. J. COOK.

1. I have never reversed brood-combs, and all I know about it is what I have read in the bee-papers. 2. From observation, I do not know. As the young bees in the cells lie on their backs, I would think that reversing would injure them. 3. They could not move except for a very short time after spinning their cocoons, and for a very short time before leaving the cells.—M. MAHIN.

I have given up the practice, as I doubt if it pays (except in extreme cases), for trouble and time expended. I am yearly falling more into the "let alone" policy with my bees—partly from necessity. But, of course, a knowledge of their condition, and an occasional going over, is advisable. I never noticed the bad effect you mention, from this practice.—W. M. BARNUM.

1. Reversing frames causes them to be completely filled with comb, leaving no crevices in which the queen can hide, and which make it difficult to shake or brush the bees from the combs. This adds so largely to their value that I consider reversing appliances worth their cost for this purpose alone. 2. Reversing has no effect on the brood. But except for the purpose mentioned, it is of little value to the honey-producer.—JAMES A. GREEN.

1. I became tired of jumping at new ideas before the reversing question came up, so it almost died before I got to try it. 2. I know it is sure to ruin queens, to turn the cells upside down; but as young bees are more naturally reared in a horizontal position, I do not think reversing would hurt them. 3. I think the pupa moves, as I have watched it do so, and it is pretty busy until it

finishes its cocoon. Then it seems to sleep away the rest of its 21 days, as I have pretty closely watched "bare-headed" bees until they hatched.—Mrs. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

1. There has been no verdict rendered *authoritatively*. It is simply a matter of experience and experiment. 2. In my experience it is of no value except to have the combs attached closely to the bottom-bars of the frames; otherwise, "reversing" is injurious to the prosperity of the bees. 3. Not until after the pupa state has merged into the imago state. The young bees begin to move in the cell only a short while before they begin to cut the cap of the cells.—G. W. DEMAREE.



Report of the Iowa State Bee-Keepers' Convention.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY J. W. BITTENBENDER.

(Concluded from page 466.)

The first on the programme of the second day of the Iowa State Bee-Keepers' Convention, was the following essay by Mr. O. B. Barrows, of Marshalltown, entitled,

Some of the Things "I Don't Know" About Bee-Keeping.

Having been selected by your honorable President to speak on this subject, I will commence by saying that 18 or 20 years ago, when I first commenced keeping bees, being anxious to increase rapidly, I took Mrs. Tupper's advice and divided them each season for three years. At the end of this period I found I had spent \$175, and had but 2 colonies of bees, and nary a pound of honey; and if any person would ask me if that was a good way to increase bees, I would have to answer in the language of Dr. Miller, and say, "I don't know."

I saw a picture of a girl with a little hand force-pump spraying a swarm of bees to make them cluster low. It

looked fine in the picture, so I attached a pipe to our water works, and run it into the center of my bee-yard. I attached a hose, and by turning a cut-off I could throw water 20 or 30 feet high, and from 10 to 15 barrels per hour. After trying it three or four seasons I abandoned it, and if asked if it was a good way to make bees cluster low, I would have to answer, "I don't know."

After the North American Bee-Keepers' Association met in Canada, I read what our Canadian brethren said about spring packing, and the Norwegian bake-oven. It looked very reasonable, so I lined seven hives with paper asbestos, taking care to break-joints with the paper on solid board so there should be no cracks to let in air, or allow heat to escape. I filled the caps seven or eight inches deep with dry straw, then covered all with a broad shade-board to carry off rain, and then watched, expecting to see them build up much faster and swarm much earlier than any other colonies. But imagine my surprise to see a colony in a single-walled hive (with only two thicknesses of burlap, and a shade-board over the brood-frames, and the shade-board raised to give ventilation over the burlap), the first to get strong and send out a swarm. After using those lined hives for three seasons, and having 5 out of 7 of the colonies die from spring dwindling, the past season, if asked if there was any advantage in spring protection, more than given by a single-walled hive, I should have to say, "I don't know."

I have used several bee-smokers, most of them with a valve to the bellows, which often gets wheezy, and for the last two or three years I have used one without a valve to the bellows, and if asked what is the use of a valve to the bellows, I should say, "I don't know."

Last fall I had fears about the so-called honey-dew being suitable for winter stores, and my fears continued all winter, and when the fearful mortality came in the spring, I had fully made up my mind that honey-dew caused it; but afterwards I met a friend in my own county, whose losses were far greater than mine, and received a letter from a friend at Dunlap, whose losses were about the same as mine, and they both assured me that their bees stored no honey-dew, so I am obliged to say about the cause of the great mortality, when I lost 52 out of 100 colonies, that "I don't know."

I have used three different kinds of bee-escapes to get the bees out of the

surplus arrangement, and found them all good; but if asked which was the best, I would say, "I don't know."

O. B. BARROWS.

After the above essay, Mr. W. C. Frazier, of Atlantic, read the following, on

Beginners and the Honey Market.

"How can beginners be best educated not to ruin a market for those more experienced?" has been asked.

Honey is a luxury. In order to attract purchasers it must be put up in an attractive form. Not only the honey itself must be clean, but the case, or jar, in which it is exposed for sale must also be neat and attractive.

After securing the honey and casing it neatly, there is just one other thing that must be done to make it sell, namely, put a price on it that will be as attractive as the honey.

To produce the finest grade of comb honey costs money. Supers, sections, separators and comb foundation must all be the best. More attention should be given to the foundation—"thin surplus" is too thick. Some seasons the bees will *thin* foundation; some seasons they eat holes in it and spoil it, and some seasons (and this year was one of them) they use it just as it is when given to them.

Last spring I received a sample, perhaps 6 inches square, of foundation, "extra heavy," $4\frac{1}{2}$ square feet to the pound. I thought it would be a good thing to try, to see how much the bees would thin it, so I cut it into 4 triangular pieces, and placed them in sections. The bees built it out just as it was. The comb they built can be scraped off, and no one could tell that the foundation had ever been used.

If a man has spent time and money building up a market at home, he surely has a better right to that market than any one else. The trouble with beginners is, when they secure a tolerable crop of honey, they become panic-stricken; the demand for honey is not great until the winter months, and they think they must sell, and sell at once; consequently they unload at a price that ruins the market. The remedy for this is hard to prescribe.

If the beginner produces an article worthy of being shipped, and sells at a price that will ruin the market, buy his crop of him, and either ship or retail it at a price that will pay to produce honey. If he is contrary, and will not

sell to you at the rates he will sell to others, the only thing to be done is to beat him at his own game.

Next season put in a stock of section-holders and sections, snow-white and polished; with the newest and best separators, that are the width of the sections; have these sections 8 to the foot, and use very thin foundation in them. These you can sell at a price that will meet competition with any one who has a tendency to cut the price.

Bee-keepers should live in harmony. There is no use in running down prices which are now too low. Comb honey sells now in my market at 10 cents per pound, and extracted at 8 cents. My whole crop of extracted honey will be sold at home, for 8 cents a pound. These prices are low, too low, in fact; no man could keep enough bees to make it pay, off bees alone.

W. C. FRAZIER.

The subject of Mr. Frazier's essay brought out quite a discussion.

Mr. De Clare—It is the small producers that sell their honey at low prices.

Mr. March—In my locality there is not enough honey to supply the market at 20 cents per pound.

Mr. Young—If bee-keepers would all take bee-papers, they would be posted on the honey market.

A Member—I have no trouble to get 15 cents for my honey, and bee-keepers should send their honey to market. They should pay more attention to the producing of fancy honey, and then they should get fancy prices.

Mr. Frazier—I have seen "cut-out" honey sell for as much as fancy honey.

Thos. Johnson—To prepare sections for market, proceed on some cool morning and scrape off all propolis, and thus make them attractive.

Mr. Barrows—Bee-keepers do not investigate the market, and so sell at too low prices.

Mr. Frich—I am a beginner, and know that beginners do ruin the market, because they do not know how to prepare the honey for selling.

Mr. Young—Some bee-keepers think that when other sweets are down, honey must come down also, which is a great mistake.

Mr. Coverdale—All small honey-producers sell their honey too low, because they do not consider it worth holding; and many have no proper place to keep it.

Mr. Fultz—The time is not far off when honey will bring cash, and it is the most satisfactory way of doing business.

THE USE OF BEE-ESCAPES.

The subject of bee-escapes was then taken up.

Mr. Barrows had used three different kinds, and all with success.

Mr. Secor likes the Porter escape best.

Mr. Marshall said that bee-escapes would not give satisfaction when brood is above the brood-chamber.

The following were elected unanimously as officers for the ensuing year:

President, Eugene Secor, Forest City; Vice-President, O. B. Barrows, of Marshalltown; Secretary, J. W. Bittenbender, of Knoxville; and Treasurer, Mrs. J. W. Bittenbender.

J. W. BITTENBENDER, Sec.

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

Time and place of meeting.

1892.
Oct. 18, 19.—Illinois State, at Chicago, Ills.
Jas. A. Stone, Sec., Bradfordton, Ills.
Oct. 19.—N. E. Ohio, N. Penn. & W. New York
at Sagerstown, Pa.
George Spitler, Sec., Mosiertown, Pa.
Oct. 20.—Southern California at Los Angeles.
Geo. W. Brodbeck, Sec., Los Angeles, Calif.
Nov. 3.—Connecticut, at Hartford, Conn.
Mrs. W. E. Riley, Sec., Waterbury, Conn.
Nov. 28.—Allegany Co., at Angelica, N. Y.
H. L. Dwight, Sec., Friendship, N. Y.
1893.
Jan. 13, 14.—S. W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel, Wis.
Edwin Pike, Pres., Boscobel, Wis.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITORS.

North American Bee-Keepers' Association

PRESIDENT—Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.
SECRETARY—W. Z. Hutchinson....Flint, Mich

National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.
SEC'Y AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

There's Not a Young Person

but what can secure at least one new subscriber to the BEE JOURNAL, and get the splendid Premium offered on page 485. Try it.



Importance of Experiments in Apiculture.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

It may be thought a matter of doubt by some—even of our wise and thoughtful men—whether it pays to experiment, and whether our several States and Nation are warranted in expending money, time and energy in experimenting and in passing laws endowing departments and institutions for the sole purpose of making investigations. The fact that all the most advanced Nations are doing this more and more, and the further fact that one single discovery often brings immense returns, will go far to set all such doubts at rest in the minds of the reading public.

Whether our States are wise in voting money for such purpose, and whether the Hatch Bill, appropriating such a munificent fund (which establishes a station in each State and Territory, and equips it so that if well manned, it can do much and excellent work) was timely and worthy, it is not my purpose now to discuss. We have money appropriated in several States to further experimentation, and aid investigation.

We have the Hatch Act which appropriates \$15,000 annually to each State and Territory, which fund is to be used exclusively to further research in all directions that will foster and encourage manual-labor pursuits. Besides these, we have large annual appropriations for the Department of Agriculture, which are given with the express purpose of developing information which shall aid agriculture in all its varied departments. Thus the amount annually appropriated, for the sole purpose of research in the line of agricultural development and progress, is upwards of \$750,000.

We see that the civilized world believes that such work is valuable and desirable. We see that our country is

taking the lead in this new role-of endowed research, especially to unearth new and valuable truth in the aid of the industrial pursuits.

That so much of thought, study and real scientific ability can be devoted to this work of investigation, without real, substantial gain, is certainly not true. Mistakes will be made; incapable men will doubtless be employed, and, in some cases, hasty generalizations will result in erroneous statements and consequent loss and injury; but it goes without saying that, for the most part, very able men will be—*are* secured to do this work, and exceedingly valuable discoveries are being made. Thus we are warranted richly in the assertion that many new and most valuable facts are now being discovered, and are to be more and more brought to light by this hard-working, untiring body of investigators.

THE GREAT NEEDS OF BEE-CULTURE.

But how is it with bee-keeping? How much of this thought and energy are being used to benefit this art? When we consider the large number of apiarists, the valuable product which they create, and the tremendous supplementary good that they do, in stocking the country with insects that are pre-eminent in the most important work of cross-fertilizing the flowers of our most valued fruits and vegetables, it needs no argument to show that of all the host of manual laborers, none are more worthily employed, or more worthy of just such aid as it is the province of these experiment stations to give. Uncertain seasons; new and subtle diseases; unfair discriminations by our postal authorities, which, though, unintended and thoughtless, are just as hurtful; and the discouraging competition of cheap, insipid, and often unwholesome adulterations, make it all the more important that the worthy class of honey-producers have attention, and that research remove these several obstacles that essay to check the progress of our eager, hard-working bee-keepers.

Notwithstanding the magnitude of the business, its direct and indirect importance, and the crying need of patient and thorough watchfulness or investigation in all the lines mentioned above, yet the Agricultural Department has withdrawn all aid, and, so far as the records show, no States except Michigan, Colorado, Rhode Island, and possibly New York and Iowa, are doing one thing to aid in this important direction. Even the States that have acknowledged,

practically, a duty in this direction, nearly all have dealt out favors (?) most reluctantly, and, I may say, grudgingly.

It seems to me, as one who has kept close watch of this whole matter for years, that the bee-keepers have been neglected, and are entirely warranted in making a most vehement protest. I have seen enough to make me think that any one may secure his rights in our country, if he finds out just what they are, and then insists upon a recognition of them by the powers that be.

The dairymen saw that the sale of oleomargarine as butter was injuring their business. They demanded of the Government a law making the sale of manipulated (or doctored) lard and tallow as butter, a serious misdemeanor; and they secured their end and aim.

Last year we almost secured congressional legislation that would stop the dealing in "futures"—a form of gambling hardly less infamous than the New Orleans lottery—and a general law against adulteration. Both these laws would be righteous, and will soon honor our national statutes, and bless our people.

Thus we see that if we know our rights, and are energetic and determined, we can secure them.

There is no question but that every State—like Illinois, Iowa, Colorado, California, etc.—where the bee-interest is important, should take measures to have their business recognized in the experiment station. Bee-keepers in Illinois are suffering from an unknown bee-disease, which is without doubt a microbe disease. Prof. T. J. Burrill, of the Illinois University, is one of our best students of bacteriology. I doubt if he knows of this malady at all; while I fear that his name will be new to most of the bee-keepers who read this article.

Now, why may not the Illinois Experiment Station very wisely pay a small sum—say from three to five hundred dollars, to some first-class bee-keeper—Dr. C. C. Miller or J. A. Green would fill the bill—to keep a sharp lookout, that advantage may be taken of the wisdom in the University and Station, and the interests of bee-keepers subserved all along the line?

Does any one doubt but that such a person, armed with authority and paid for work, watchfulness and studious interest, would fail to give a manifold return for value received? And certainly no bee-keeper will doubt but that of \$15,000 annually paid by the United States Government to each State, for purpose of research, a claim of \$300,

or even \$500, would not be greedy on the part of the bee-keepers.

Why should not this matter come up at the meeting of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association in Chicago on Oct. 18th? Why should not vigorous, ringing resolutions be passed, asking for such just recognition? Why should not this be seconded by a live, wide-awake committee, to press the matter? And why should not every bee-keeper in Illinois send a personal letter to the Director of the Station, urging that the request be granted? Such energetic action, calling for simple right and justice, could but have weighty influence, and most probably would bring success.

And why should not such action be taken at the State conventions of every other State, where bee-keeping is an important industry? This is only pushing for what is just and right. Shall there not be a waking up to earnest action all along the line?

Again, of the large appropriations, reaching away up to thousands and thousands of dollars for research by the Department of Agriculture, why should bee-keepers be ostracised, even though there is a cut of \$10,000 in this year's appropriation? Why not reduce the work a little in other lines, rather than cease all work in apicultural research?

I believe that the Government could in no way have spent \$1,000 more advantageously than to have kept Mr. Larrabee in the harness. To stop this valuable line of work is surely a mistake, and I believe a real injustice. I believe, even yet, the wrong may be righted. Let the North American Convention, and bee-keepers all over the country, act as I have already suggested for Illinois, and success is assured.

That Secretary Rusk, and Assistant Secretary Willits are in full sympathy with all industrial pursuits, and extend a hearty interest to bee-keepers, there is not a shadow of doubt; that Prof. Riley, who once recommended fruit-growers to plant milk-weeds to destroy bees, is very enthusiastic may not be true, but he could not resist such overwhelming petitions, even though he desired to do so.

Let all move in solid phalanx upon the head of the Department, and we shall gain our desires and our rights. I believe there is hardly any action that bee-keepers can take that is as emphatic with promise of generous success and valuable aid.

Agricultural College, Mich.

[For editorial comments, see page 488 of this issue.—Ed.]

Directions for Preparing Comb Honey for Market.

BY F. WILCOX.

The best months to ship comb honey are October and November, and the markets are usually active in those months.

All comb honey should be in small sections. The old-style 10 or 20 pound boxes will not sell in any market.

Honey should be taken from the hives as soon as possible after the harvest is over, and sometimes before; generally as soon as well finished. If not promptly removed, the cappings will become soiled and look brown. We call it "travel stained." This lessens the value of it in the market, but it does not injure its eating or keeping quality.

The sections must be scraped to remove the propolis which always adheres to them as they are removed from the hive.

It is a good plan to pile them on a bench in a warm, well-ventilated room for two or three weeks before crating for market. I prepare a bench for the purpose, by taking boards about 14 inches wide, lay them on empty hives or something like that to get them up from the floor. Lay on them common lath 4 1/4 inches apart from centers, and place the scraped sections on these so the corners rest on the lath. Those sections that are seen to be fractured or leaky should be piled by themselves. Some will be fractured so slightly that you will not discover it in handling them, but if put at once in shipping-crates would leak and soil others. If piled in this way in the store-room, the leakage drops down between the lath and nothing is daubed.

Another advantage of thus piling them is, if there are any eggs of the bee-moth in them they will all hatch within two or three weeks, and can be seen or known by the fine, white dust on the surface of the combs.

Shipping-crates should always have a strip of glass in one side to show the honey, otherwise it will be broken in handling. If to be sent to commission men, crates should hold from 12 to 24 pounds each; if directly to merchants who retail it, 48-pound crates are as good as any.

Honey should be placed in crates the opposite side up from what it was when on the hives, because combs are always well fastened at the top, while they are not always at the bottom. Combs should stand on edge, not hang suspended. If

the combs are not well fastened to the wood on three sides they will not ship safely, and should be kept for the home market, as should also the fractured and leaky ones.

To prevent damage from jerking of trains, tell your freightman to see them loaded in the cars so the combs will run lengthwise of the cars; this will always bring the glass toward the sides of the cars, not toward the ends.

The honey crop is rather short this season, and it should bring fair prices. —*Wisconsin Farmer*, Mauston, Wis.

Fall Work in the Apiary, and Other Subjects.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY MRS. L. HARRISON.

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended"—and yet there is much important work to be performed in the apiary, if the goal of success is ever attained. Eternal vigilance, and the faithful performance of every little item, is also necessary.

REMOVING SURPLUS HONEY.

The idea of comb honey suggests the most delicate fabric, requiring gentle handling, in order to preserve it in its beauty. What workmanship of man can be compared to the delicate cells of white clover honey, built during a generous flow of nectar from white clover? Touch it with a slight pressure, and it gives way; yet it is strong enough to hold within its walls the precious nectar for all time. Therefore, in all the manipulations of comb honey, "care" is the watchword.

When about to remove comb honey from the hives, in whatever condition it may be in, have all things ready before disturbing the colony. Scrape and clean out the smoker; don't *guess* it is all right, but *know* that it is, and have fuel that emits plenty of smoke. See that the mask or veil is not full of holes, and the tools to be used are not stuck up with propolis.

When all things are ready, uncover the hive with so little jar that the bees are not aware of your presence, and puff in a little smoke to put them on their good behavior. Where a break-joint honey-board is used, under a case of sections, they are not glued down, and can be easily loosened; but when a box or case of sections is placed over the combs with no intervening board, it

requires work, patience and skill to pry them loose.

Where a case of sections has a break-joint honey-board, and are not glued down, the bees can be driven below with a little smoke, the case can be lifted off and set down for a moment, while the hive is being covered up, when the few bees remaining can be driven out, with puffing smoke between the sections, when the case can be carried into the honey-house, and any bees remaining will leave and gather upon the windows. Where the case is glued down tightly, it is well to pry it up the evening before, taking it off in the morning.

There are many persons throughout the country who keep a few colonies of bees to provide their own families with honey (using old-style boxes), and make the enquiry how to get the bees out. If these boxes are removed towards evening, and smoke puffed into them, and placed near to the entrance, the bees will take up a line of march for it and usually by morning they will be out. If few bees leave it, it shows the presence of a queen, and I know no better way than to return it to the hive for a day or so, when it can be removed again, and then she may have gone below. These boxes can be placed in the bottom of a barrel, and covered up, leaving only a small hole; the bees will be attracted to the light and pass out. The hole must be small, or robbers will find their way in.

BEE-ESCAPES OR SUPER-CLEANERS.

British bee-keepers call them "super-cleaners." They are a new invention, but have come to stay. The idea is a small cone that a bee can pass through, but none can return by the same route. These escapes are fitted into a board, and the case of sections lifted up, and the board placed under them. If this is done in the evening, the case can be removed in the morning, when it will be free from bees. Gilt-edged honey is best removed in this way; there would be no discoloration or color from smoke, and the bees would not be frenzied and tear open the cappings of the cells.

Any invention that can assist bee-keepers to put honey upon the market in a first-class condition, should be warmly welcomed.

EXTRACTED HONEY.

There would soon be a large demand for this product, if the populace could be assured that it was unadulterated, and it was neatly put upon the market in an attractive shape. I once bought a

tin can of honey, in order to see how other's sent it to market. When I pried up the lid, the first thing that I saw was the leg and wing of a bee.

A groceryman once said to the writer, "I wish that fellow that left that honey here would come and take it away, for I would as soon have soap-grease in my store." Neatness first, last, and all the time, is a desideratum in its production.

Bee-escapes are good assistance in the production of extracted honey. In an evening, the upper story—the story containing the combs to be extracted—can be lifted up and an escape put under, and by next morning the bees have gone below, and the combs can be removed, without having to brush off the bees from each one, which greatly irritates them.

Where honey is extracted by the ton, and run into large tanks, the impurities will rise to the top, while the honey can be drawn from a gate at the bottom; but those who produce honey in a small way (and they are probably the largest number), had better run it into vessels through cheese-cloth. As I produce honey only in a small way, I run the honey from the extractor into large jars or tin cans with cheese-cloth tied over the top, and when a vessel is full, remove this cloth, and tie another one of the same material over it. In this way all impurities are kept out, which is better than skimming them off the surface of the honey after they have risen to the top.

KEEP DIFFERENT KINDS OF HONEY APART.

Mr. Muth, of Cincinnati, has done much to instruct the public to know what pure honey is, and to induce producers to keep honeys unmixed, so that white clover would have its own flavor, basswoods, etc. This is not possible at all times, but only when a large flow is from one source.

ARE BEES A NUISANCE?

Yes, they can be made such, but not necessarily. If the surplus honey is removed, when no honey is to be had in the fields, great care should be exercised, lest the bees become irritated and revengeful. When surplus honey is being removed, if the hive is jarred, the bees will rush out pell-mell to defend it; when the operator reaches for his smoke he has none—it is out. His hair is soon full of angry bees, for they have found holes in his mask or veil, and in desperation he drops the case of sections, and, leaving the hive uncovered, beats a retreat. The cat will run up a tree,

with its tail as large as a rolling-pin; the dog scamper, howling and turning summersaults in the direction of the barn; chickens seeking the shelter of bushes, frantically trying to scratch off the bees from their combs; horses and cows will throw up their tails, and seek shelter; and the apiary will be so demoralized that it will be days before quiet reigns, so that a person can enter it without molestation.

Peoria, Ills.

Progeny of Italian Queen Mated with Black Drone, Etc.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY S. E. MILLER.

The above is the subject of a Query on page 172, and the question is, "Do you believe that an Italian queen, yellow or dark colored, mated with a black drone, will produce all three or more banded worker bees?"

Messrs. Mason, Miller, Cutting and others say "No." Hambaugh, "Yes." Mrs. Heater, "Yes, but not often." But I should consider Prof. Cook on this question like the elephant at the convention—he weighs more than all the others together. He says: "I think that in rare cases she might do so. . . . Crossing bees works just as crossing higher animals." This last sentence is hitting the nail squarely on the head, and so long as we cannot know positively with what kind of a drone a queen mates, the best we can do is to judge them in this way.

Let us make a comparison. We will say, mate a pure, or, if you please, a thoroughbred brown Leghorn hen with a Plymouth Rock cock. Who will say that all of the eggs from this hen (so long as she remained fertile from said cock), if hatched and reared to maturity, would show all the markings of the Leghorn race? Who can name a case of this kind? I very much doubt whether one has ever been known, or a similar one, with any kind of animal, hogs, cattle, or any stock. On the other hand, I believe, and my observations confirm my belief, that the progeny of any animal is more likely to follow in appearance and characteristics the sire than the dame.

STANDARD OF PURITY IN BEES.

All three-banded workers are a good enough standard of purity in the Italian bee for me, but there is no telling how

soon the standard will be raised to five bands, and then some fellow will go to rearing ten or twelve banded workers!

SEVERAL EGGS IN A CELL.

Mr. A. C. Aten, on page 383, has noticed that a queen sometimes lays more than one egg in a cell. This is not so very uncommon when there are not bees enough in the hive to cover the brood and eggs.

moth-worms AND BLACK BEES.

Mr. E. Franco, on page 648 of *Gleanings* for Sept. 1st, says: "Black bees are as proof against moth-worms as Italians." I will admit it if the black colony is very strong, and the Italians very weak. He cites a case in which moth-worms were plentiful in combs in a quadruple hive, while his black bees were not infested in another apartment of the same hives. I do not blame the worms for not bothering the bees so long as they had plenty to eat without going among the bees.

BLACK BEES VS. ITALIANS.

Mr. R. A. Shultz, on page 338 of the *BEE JOURNAL*, also stands up for Mr. Ellingwood on the "Blacks vs. Italians" subject. Well, just let those fellows keep their black bees. I am not afraid of any of their old black drones mating with my Italian queens.

GOLDEN-ROD AND SPANISH-NEEDLE.

Somebody (I believe it was those "miserable Frenchmen" over at Hamiltan, Ills., as Dr. Miller calls them) intimated that much of the golden-rod and aster honey (so-called) was gathered from Spanish-needle. Here it is reversed. All of our Spanish-needle honey is gathered from boneset, aster and golden-rod—mostly from boneset.

Bluffton, Mo.

Distance Bees Fly for Nectar.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY J. H. ANDRE.

When haying this season, I saw Italian bees working on the clover blossoms. Being well acquainted with the vicinity, I knew there were no Italian colonies nearer than 1½ miles, unless they were wild ones.

Several days ago I caught one of the bees about 1½ miles from the apiary, and set it to work on thin syrup. Prob-

ably it would fill and discharge its load of syrup much quicker than it would from flowers of any kind. By timing it, I ascertained it was gone 24 minutes, without including its time of filling. Probably it would have taken at least half an hour at each flight when working upon flowers.

It seems hardly possible that they would be profitable gathering honey from that distance, and yet some will make the off-hand assertions that they will do well when gathering honey from 2 to 3 miles away. I have been a practical bee-hunter for 35 years, and for the last 20 I have been an expert, if I am allowed to use the expression of my neighbors. One mile is the farthest I ever lined bees until this season. I very much doubt that black bees go farther, unless they have strong inducements. In fact, I think those spoken of would not have foraged that distance, only they were some I sold during May, and they returned to their old haunts, and kept it during the season.

Lockwood, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1892.

Apiarian Exhibit at the Toronto, Ont., Industrial Exhibition.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY R. F. HOLTERMANN.

The Toronto Exhibition is, I think, justly considered the most successful exhibition, held from year to year, in America, and therefore in the world.

The honey exhibit was good, the display not larger than previous years, but the quality of the honey was of the very best. The exhibitors were Messrs. J. B. Hall, of Woodstock; R. H. Smith, of Bracebridge; E. L. Goold & Co., of Brantford; Geo. Laing, of Milton; and W. Alford, of Ottawa.

Toronto exhibitors have to expend a great deal of time and trouble in filling honey in neat and attractive packages of glass; this gives those unable to attend in person, and at a long distance, no chance to compete for prizes in which display is taken into consideration.

The decision of the judges in awarding the prize for the most tasty and neatly arranged exhibit, did not agree with that of the majority of the exhibitors, or with that of the public generally. Perhaps it would be well to leave the awarding of this prize to artists. The awards were as follows:

Best display of 100 pounds of ex-

tracted granulated honey—1st, Geo. Laing, R. H. Smith, and Wm. Alford.

Best display of 500 pounds of liquid extracted honey, of which not less than 250 pounds must be in glass, quality to be considered—R. H. Smith, E. L. Goold & Co., J. B. Hall, and Geo. Laing.

Best display of 500 pounds of comb honey in sections, quality to be considered—J. B. Hall, E. L. Goold & Co., and Geo. Laing.

Best display of 20 pounds of comb honey in sections, quality to be considered—J. B. Hall, R. H. Smith and Geo. Laing.

Best display of 100 pounds of extracted liquid linden honey, in glass, quality to be considered—Messrs. Laing and Goold & Co.

Best display of 100 pounds of extracted liquid clover honey, in glass, quality to be considered—E. L. Goold & Co., J. B. Hall and R. H. Smith.

Best beeswax, not less than 10 pounds, (manufacturers of comb foundation excluded)—Geo. Laing, R. H. Smith and W. Alford.

Best comb foundation for brood-chambers; best comb foundation for sections; best apiarian supplies; and best style and assortment of glass for retailing extracted honey—E. L. Goold & Co.

Best section super for top story, and system of manipulating, product to be exhibited in super as left by the bees—J. B. Hall, Geo. Laing and E. L. Goold & Co.

In the above, Mr. Hall's and Mr. Laing's supers were alike, being the Heddon, and several could not see why the judges should have awarded in any other way than 1st equally to those two.

Best and most practical and new invention never shown before at this exhibition—E. L. Goold & Co., J. B. Hall, and R. H. Smith.

E. L. Goold & Co. took 1st on an improvement on the honey-extractor, described in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL last spring. J. B. Hall took 2nd on a register in an apiary, which he will perhaps be kind enough to describe in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. R. H. Smith took 3rd on a section-crate lid-hinge.

Largest and best variety of domestic uses to which honey may be put—R. H. Smith, Messrs. Laing and Holtermann.

To the most tasty and neatly arranged exhibit of honey in the Apiarian Department—Messrs. Hall, Smith and Laing.

To the exhibitor taking the largest number of 1st prizes for honey at this exhibition—J. B. Hall and R. H. Smith.

Brantford, Ont.



Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

Report for the Season, Etc.

I extracted 4,000 pounds of honey from 60 colonies, spring count, and increased to 110. All are in good condition for winter. I am well pleased with the BEE JOURNAL, and could not get along without it. **FRANK MÖESER,**
Minneapolis, Minn., Oct. 3, 1892.

Still Gathering Honey.

Bees are still gathering a little honey, but the season is about over, and the average all around is about half as good as last season. Here are three fast friends: A. E. Jameson, his yard of bees, and the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.
A. E. JAMESON.
Weeping Water, Nebr., Oct. 4, 1892.

My Experience with Bees, Etc.

I have 51 colonies of bees, and live on the prairie four miles from the timber. I winter the bees in a top-ground brick-cellar. I put in 54 colonies, one hive on top of the other, four high, and fed them nearly a barrel of granulated sugar before putting them in on Nov. 13th, 1891. I took them out on March 24th, and they were all alive, except the ones underneath were moldy, and in a weak condition.

I fed them nearly a barrel of granulated sugar in the spring, and up to June 4th, 4 colonies dwindled and died, and in July 4 others died.

The fields were white with clover, but the bees did very little on it. They are the common black bees, excepting 6 colonies of Italians. I have had only 2 swarms, and they were from an Italian colony. They begun on the smart-weed and Spanish-needle about Aug. 1st, and since that time I never saw the bees carry in honey so fast. I will get from

nothing up to 84 pounds to the colony, and will take off about 1,500 pounds in all. It is ready sale at 20 cents per pound.

I use the Langstroth 8-frame hive, and have an evergreen hedge on the west side of my apiary 25 feet high; the branches on the west side drooping down to the ground, and on the east they are trimmed so that I can walk under them. The hives are three feet from the trunks of the trees. I am thinking of wintering the bees on the summer stands, by putting corn-fodder between the hives and the trees, and covering them all up except the entrances. Will some one tell me whether this is a good idea? **THOMAS MAYS.**

Mays, Ills., Sept. 29, 1892.

Must Feed for Wintering.

I expect to have to feed my bees this fall for winter. There is practically no honey here this year.

WARREN P. ADAMS.
Abington, Pa., Sept. 28, 1892.

Bees Did Fairly Well.

My bees have done fairly well this year. I obtained from 11 colonies, spring count, 400 pounds of extracted honey and 300 pounds of comb honey, besides increasing to 16 colonies.

W. C. ALLEN.
Metee, Ind., Oct. 4, 1892.

Late Swarm of Black Bees.

I had a swarm of black bees to-day—Oct. 1st. They clustered on a plum-tree. I put down a light spread, shook the bees down, caught the queen, and let the bees go back to their old home, as it is pretty late for swarms, and sugar is up.

C. V. MANN.
Riverton, Ills.

Failure of Honey-Predictions, Etc.

On page 406, Mr. Sam Wilson takes to task Mr. Thomas Johnson, because the latter said he (Wilson) had failed in his predictions of the honey-flow for 1892. I wish to say that Mr. Wilson has missed it here in Cass county, where he said we would have the greatest failure.

About a year ago Mr. Wilson asked space in the BEE JOURNAL to tell the bee-keepers of the land why and how he could tell when we were to have a

honey-flow, or a failure, and the editor granted him space; but he has not yet given us his theory upon which he bases his predictions. Some may say that the mere assertion that Mr. Wilson has failed in his prediction, without giving any data, is not sufficient proof.

I have 36 colonies of bees. From my best colony I extracted 210 pounds, from the next best I extracted 180 pounds, and from none of the others have I taken less than 40 pounds. I think my success is due to the fact that I do not let my bees swarm any more than I can help, but work them for honey until the honey-flow is about over, and then divide and make as many colonies as I wish. J. E. STONER.

Atlantic, Iowa, Sept. 30, 1892.

Honey Crop a Fair Average.

I think that my honey crop is a fair average. I have 5 colonies, and secured 300 pounds of comb honey, or 60 pounds per colony. I think that is very well, taking everything into consideration, and especially the poor summer we had.

JOHN H. RUPP.

Washington, Kans., Oct. 3, 1892.

Best Season for Years.

This was the best honey year since I have kept bees. I never before saw the fields so covered with white clover, and the basswood trees were never so full of blossoms as this year. I got some nice white honey, and would have taken much more if the colonies had been strong when the honey-flow commenced. They became very weak through the winter, and one colony died in the spring.

Last winter bees had poor honey for stores, and when I opened the hives on the first warm day in the spring, the hives were full of dirt and dead bees; just a small portion of the colonies and the queens were left; and if we had had a good spring so that they could get strong by the right time, it would have been all right, but with cold weather they could not breed up. The first swarms I had in the last part of July, and some colonies did not swarm at all. My 13 colonies are in good condition, and I hope we will have a good honey year in 1893.

CHAS. DUCLOS.

Saginaw, Mich., Oct. 3, 1893.

Read our great offer on page 485.



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Wants or Exchanges.

Under this heading, Notices of 5 lines, or less, will be inserted at **10 cents per line**, for each insertion, when specially ordered into this Department. If over 5 lines, the additional lines will cost 20 cents each.

WANTED—To sell, good Apiary and Fixtures at Pattonsburg, Mo. Good location. Address, **G. F. TUCKER**, 14A4t Yellville, Ark.

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Convention Notices.

CONNECTICUT.—The fall meeting of the Connecticut Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at the Capitol at Hartford, on Thursday, Nov. 3rd, 1892. **MRS. W. E. HILEY**, Sec. Waterbury, Conn.

CALIFORNIA.—The annual session of the Southern California Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at the Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles, on Oct. 20th, 1892, at 9 a. m. **G. W. BRODBECK**, Sec. Los Angeles, Cal.

NEW YORK.—The next meeting of the Allegany County Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at Mrs. H. Green's, in Angelica, N. Y., at 2 p. m. on Monday, Nov. 28, 1892. All bee-keepers are invited to attend. **H. L. DWIGHT**, Sec. Friendship, N. Y.

ILLINOIS.—The Illinois State Bee-Keepers Association will hold a two days' session at the Commercial Hotel in Chicago, Ills., Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 18th and 19th, 1892—the week of the Dedication of the World's Fair building. Reduced railroad rates will then be expected, and a large attendance of bee-keepers from the whole country. **JAS. A. STONE**, Sec. Bradfordton, Ills.

WISCONSIN.—The Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next annual meeting at Boscobel, Grant Co., Wis., on Jan. 13 and 14, 1893. All members of the Association are requested to be present as the following officers are to be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Sec., and Treasurer. Blank Reports will be sent each member, for the year 1892, with instructions. A cordial invitation is extended to all bee-keepers, and especially to those that would like to join with us. Each member will be notified at least one month before the meeting. **EDWIN PIKE**, Pres. Boscobel, Wis.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The 13th annual convention of the Northeastern Ohio, Northern Pennsylvania and Western New York Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the parlors of the Mineral Springs Hotel at Saegertown, Pa., on Oct. 19th, 1892, at 10 o'clock, a. m., for a two-days' session. The program will consist of practical topics, discussed by practical bee-keepers. Saegertown is situated six miles east of Meadville, on the New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio railroad. Reduced rates to those attending the convention have been secured. Saegertown is one of the finest summer resorts of the country. A steamer is afloat on the river, which will be at the disposal of all wishing it. Let all attend who can. Ladies are especially invited. Programs will be sent to others upon request, by the Secretary. **GEORGE SPITLER**, Sec. Moslertown, Pa.

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